



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Commission for Arts and Culture

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CONTACT: Victoria L. Hamilton
Executive Director
(619) 533-3055

**THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO AWARDED \$35,000 MATCHING GRANT FROM THE
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FOR CONSERVATION OF PAINTINGS**

San Diego, CA ... The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture (Commission) has received a \$35,000 matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Access to Artistic Excellence. The grant was awarded to support the conservation of a selection of early California paintings within the City's collection. The selected works include paintings by American artists who painted in the San Diego area during the early 1900s. The funding will also be used to make these paintings accessible to the public by ensuring their prominent display in City buildings following the conservation effort.

San Diego art conservator Elizabeth Court of the Balboa Art Conservation Center is the project's principal consultant.

"The City is grateful for the NEA's support," said Victoria L. Hamilton, Executive Director of the Commission. "By conserving this important group of paintings, the City will be able to maintain an important part of the history of San Diego. It's going to let us celebrate an important chapter in America's artistic history and allow us to ensure these paintings are carefully preserved for future generations to view and appreciate."

The NEA is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases. www.nea.gov

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The NEA grant builds upon an earlier gift from The Getty Foundation that supported an in-depth conservation survey of major fine artworks in the City's collection, including the paintings to be conserved. The Balboa Art Conservation Center and Griswold Conservation of Los Angeles were selected to conduct that study.

The mission of the Commission for Arts and Culture is to vitalize the San Diego community by integrating arts and culture into community life, supporting the region's cultural assets, and showcasing San Diego as an international cultural destination. Further information about the Commission for Arts and Culture can be accessed at: www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture/

This project is funded in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. It is also funded in part by an award from the California Arts Council State/Local Partnership Program.



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